

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 5289

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECON, PINR, AF

SUBJ: NEW APPOINTMENTS IN MINISTRY OF COMMERCE

1. EFFECTIVE AUG 7, 1975, A NUMBER OF SHIFTS OCCURRED IHD
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, REMOVING DEP MINISTER ALI NAWAZ AND
PRESIDENT OF ADMINISTRATION ABDUL SAMI RAUF, SAID TO BE A
CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF ALI NAWAZ.

2. THE NEW DEPUTY MINISTER OIS MOHAMMAD AZAM AZIMI, FORMER
PRESIDENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT AND TRANSIT DEPARTMENT
IN THE MINISTRY. ALTHOUGH HE IS LITTLE KNOWN TO THE MISSION,
HE HAS A REPUTATION IN GOA AS A COMPETENT, HARDWORKING MAN.
REPLACING HIM AS PRESIDENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT AND
TRANSIT IS M. ISSA SIAMI, FORMER DIRECTOR GENERAL OF INTERNAL
MARKETS, WHO IS, ACCORDNG TO A COMMERCE OFFICIAL, THE
MINISTRY'S ONLY EXPERT ON MARKETING. THE NEW PRESIDENT OF ADMINI-
STRATION IS ENAYATULLAH ANWAR.

3. COMMENT: ALI NAWAZ WAS ACTING MINISTER FOR OVER SIX
MONTHS FOLLOWING THE COUP AND PUBLICLY EXPECTED TO BE APPOINTED
AS MINISTER. COMMENTS FROM TWO MINISTRY OFFICIALS
INDICATE THAT FOLLOWING THE APPOINTMENT OF MOHAMMAD KHAN
JALALALAR AS COMMERCE MINISTER, ALI NAWAZ WAS SO DIS-
APPOINTED THAT HE WAS UNABLE TO WORK EFFECTIVELY WITH
THE NEW MINISTER. THIS ACCOUNT, WHICH SEEMS PLAUSIBLE,
WOULD INDICATE THAT THESE CHANGES ARE STRICTLY ADMINIS-
TRATIVE AND LEAD US TO EXPECT NO CHANGE IN THE WORKINGS
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OF THE MINISTRY.

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